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Agenda item 53

Sustainable development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa **Gomes** (Portugal)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled:

> "Sustainable development:
>
> "(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
>
> "(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
>
> "(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;
>
> "(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;
>
> "(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
>
> "(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;
>
> "(g) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session;"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 19th to 23rd meetings, on 25, 26 and 30 October 2006. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in eight parts, under the symbol A/61/422 and Add.1-7.

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contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.19-23). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 2 to 4 October (see A/C.2/61/SR.2-6). Action was taken on the item at the 24th, 25th and 30th to 34th meetings, on 2, 7, 17 and 22 November and 1, 6 and 8 December (see A/C.2/61/SR.24, 25 and 30-34). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 53
Sustainable development

(a) **Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development**

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (A/61/258)

Letter dated 12 June 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan and Lithuania to the Secretary-General (A/61/93)

Letter dated 6 July 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the Secretary-General (A/61/126)

Letter dated 12 October 2006 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (A/C.2/61/3)

(b) **Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (A/61/268)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/61/277)

Letter dated 21 April 2006 from the representative of Samoa to the Secretary-General (A/61/72-E/2006/54)

Letter dated 13 April 2006 from the representative of Seychelles to the Secretary-General (A/61/75-E/2006/49)

Letter dated 13 April 2006 from the representative of Saint Kitts and Nevis to the Secretary-General (A/61/76-E/2006/51)

Letter dated 24 July 2006 from the representative of Azerbaijan to the Secretary-General (A/61/181)

(c) **International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/61/229 and Corr.1)

Global survey of early warning systems (A/C.2/61/CRP.1)

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(d) **Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind**

(e) **Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

(f) **Convention on Biological Diversity**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/61/225)

(g) **Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session**

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its ninth special session[1]

Report of the Secretary-General on universal membership of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/61/322)

4. At the 19th meeting, on 25 October, introductory statements were made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs (under sub-items (a) and (b)); the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (under sub-item (c)); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (under sub-item (d)); the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (under sub-item (f)); and the representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (under sub-item (g)) (see A/C.2/61/SR.19).

5. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made a statement (see A/C.2/61/SR.20).

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 30 October, an introductory statement was made by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (under sub-item (e)) (see A/C.2/61/SR.23).

7. At the same meeting, pursuant to section C, paragraph 3 (d), of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the Committee held a dialogue with the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and comments were made and questions posed by the representatives of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Nigeria and Somalia (see A/C.2/61/SR.23).

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/61/25).